

- **Complete your tax return before you complete the FAFSA – and keep a copy.** You don't have to file your taxes before April 15, but actual tax figures are ideal. If you get in a pinch, last year's tax figures are usually better than W-2 figures or guessing.
- **You can include up to six colleges on the FAFSA.** If you're not sure which school you will attend, list all the colleges you applied to.
- **Watch your deadlines.** Contact the colleges and ask for their FAFSA priority deadline.
- **Don't rule out a school because of cost.** The financial aid packages offered by schools can vary widely. Compare loan amounts and out-of-pocket expenses before making a decision.
- **Continue to apply for scholarships.** Use free resources to find scholarships including your guidance counselor and *ScholarshipQuest* at [www.educationquest.org](http://www.educationquest.org).

## February "To Do" List

Complete these tasks during February to stay on the right college planning track.

### Seniors:

- \_\_\_ Schedule a FAFSA appointment at EducationQuest
- \_\_\_ Apply for a Department of Education PIN
- \_\_\_ Complete student and parent 2004 tax return(s)
- \_\_\_ Complete the FAFSA
- \_\_\_ Continue to apply for scholarships

### Juniors:

- \_\_\_ Register by February 7 for the March 12 SAT
- \_\_\_ Register by March 4 for the April 9 ACT